

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An installation for welding in a chamfered joint comprising:

a laser;

a filler metal wire;

a wire guide electrode; and

a head configured to penetrate into the chamfer, extended along longitudinal and depth directions of the chamfer and narrow in a transverse direction of the chamfer, first and second central drillings passing through the head essentially in a depth direction, but converging towards each other under the head, the first drilling being aligned with the laser and the second drilling containing the wire guide electrode, and two pipes configured to eject a protection gas passing through the head and ending [[up]] in front and behind the first and second central drillings.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A welding installation according to claim 6, further comprising a micrometric table, arranged on the head, for adjusting a position of the head above the first central drilling that is aligned with the laser.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A welding installation according to claim 6, wherein the head comprises a central recess in which the first and second central drillings end [[up]].

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A welding installation according to claim 6, wherein the two pipes pass through the head in front and behind the first and second central drillings.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A welding installation according to claim 6, wherein the laser is chosen from among a YAG or CO₂ type source, and electric arc welding is chosen from among MIG or MAG type.

Claim 11 (New): An installation for welding in a chamfered joint comprising:

- a laser;
- a filler metal wire;
- a wire guide electrode; and
- a head configured to penetrate into the chamfer, extended along longitudinal and depth directions of the chamfer and narrow in a transverse direction of the chamfer, first and second central drillings passing through the head essentially in a depth direction, but converging towards each other under the head, the first drilling being aligned with the laser and the second drilling containing the wire guide electrode, and two pipes configured to eject a protection gas passing through the head and ending in chambers located before and behind the first and second central drillings in the longitudinal direction and extending over a sufficient length in the longitudinal direction to completely cover a molten bath generated when the installation is in use.

Claim 12 (New): A welding installation according to claim 11, further comprising a micrometric table, arranged on the head, for adjusting a position of the head above the first central drilling that is aligned with the laser.

Claim 13 (New): A welding installation according to claim 11, wherein the head comprises a central recess in which the first and second central drillings end.

Claim 14 (New): A welding installation according to claim 11, wherein the two pipes pass through the head in front and behind the first and second central drillings.

Claim 15 (New): A welding installation according to claim 11, wherein the laser is chosen from among a YAG or CO₂ type source, and electric arc welding is chosen from among MIG or MAG type.

Claim 16 (New): A method for welding in a chamfer joint with an installation including a laser, a filler metal wire, a wire guide electrode, a head configured to penetrate into the chamfer, extending along longitudinal and depth directions of the chamfer and narrow in the transverse direction of the chamfer, first and second central drillings passing through the head essentially in a depth of direction, but converging towards each other under the head, the first drilling being aligned with the laser and the second drilling containing the wire guide electrode, and two pipes configured to eject a protection gas through the head and ending in chambers located before and behind the central drillings in the longitudinal direction and extending over a length in that direction, the method comprising:

blowing a protection gas through the pipes into the chambers;

lowering the head into the chamfer joint;

advancing the head along the chamfer joint; and

creating a molten bath under the head, the molten bath being completely covered by the chambers.